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The new Michigan Automated Prescription System (MAPS), which will replace the Official Prescription Program, is scheduled for implementation in January 2003. It is anticipated that the first reporting by pharmacies, dispensing prescribers and veterinarians who dispense controlled substances will commence on or about February 15, 2003.

MAPS requires pharmacists, veterinarians and dispensing physicians to electronically report all controlled substances dispensed (Schedules 2 thru 5). Controlled substance samples, Schedule 5 exempt narcotics, and controlled substances that are **administered** to patients will not have to be reported. Controlled substances dispensed by a dispensing prescriber for no more than a 48 hour supply from a health facility or agency licensed under article 17 are not reported.

MAPS requires prescription data to be reported in ASAP (American Society For Automation In Pharmacy) electronic type format. No special form or security paper will be required or supplied by the state when writing prescriptions for controlled substances. A physician may use the remainder of their Official Prescription Forms if desired, but pharmacies and physician dispensers should only report electronically, or use the MAPS reporting form for prescriptions dispensed after January 1, 2003. No new Official Prescription Forms will be printed or supplied by the state. A Windows-based data entry program on diskette is available from GC Services, the contractor, to allow electronic reporting and avoid the use of MAPS paper claims. The program can be obtained via e-mail request to MAPSINFO@michigan.gov.

Paper claims may be permitted upon submission and approval of a waiver application. An on site inspection may be required as part of the waiver process. The waiver application and MAPS operational procedures can be viewed and downloaded from the Health Services Bureau website at: www.michigan.gov/cis then click on the Family and Health Services button. Questions regarding the waiver process as well as general questions regarding the MAPS program can be sent to MAPSINFO@michigan.gov or you may contact the Regulatory Division at (517) 373-1737. Data submission and error correction can be directed to MAPSDATA@michigan.gov.

The Department of Consumer & Industry Services is in the process of completing the promulgation of new rules clarifying the reporting requirements and processes. The rules can be viewed at the same website by going to the BHSE administrative rules for the Board of Pharmacy.

Other amendments to the Public Health Code contained in these acts change the time period or "window" which previously required a Schedule 2 prescription to be dispensed within 5 days to 60 days. Only 1 Schedule 2 medication will be permitted on each prescription form.

An important note for pharmacies is that some mid-level practitioners such as Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners have been issued Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) registration numbers. These are easily identified because the registration begins with the letter M. The mid-level practitioner prescribes by delegation; the pharmacy must use the delegating physicians DEA registration. Using the mid-level registration will result in an error.